

RUSHDEN URBAN DISTRICT



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1970



F. R. N. LYNCH, M.B., B.ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "F. R. N. Lynch", written over the printed name.

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F. R. N. LYNCH, M.B., B.ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Rushden Urban District Council.

Chairman of the Council:

COUNCILLOR H. W. CATLIN, D.F.C., B.A.

Members of the Public Health Committee:

COUNCILLOR E. E. NEWELL (Chairman)

Councillors:

D. EDWARDS

G. S. OSBORNE, L.D.S.

H. T. K. GRAHAM

MRS. A. PERKINS, C.C.

F. HAYES

MISS F. M. WALKER, M.B.E.

R. H. MARRIOTT

J. E. WILLS

Clerk of the Council:

A. G. CROWDY, F.C.I.S., Barrister-at-Law

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

Medical Officer of Health:

F. R. N. LYNCH, M.B., B.ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

(Medical Officer of Health Northamptonshire Health Division No. 2)

Secretary:

MISS M. W. LANGLEY

Chief Public Health Inspector:

H. W. ELLIS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

L. SAUNBY, M.A.P.H.I.

Meat Inspector:

J. BAMBER

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The Medical Officer of Health desires to express his thanks to the following for supplying material used in the compilation of this Report:

Dr. W. J. McQuillan,
Northamptonshire County Medical Officer of Health.

Dr. J. V. L. Farquhar,
Medical Officer of Health, Kettering M.B.

Clerk of the Council.

Engineer & Surveyor to the Higham Ferrers and Rushden Water Board.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Housing Officer.

Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures Department,
Northamptonshire County Council.

Manager, Department of Employment.

Honorary Secretary, Rushden Senior Citizens' Goodwill Committee.

Honorary Secretary, Rushden Tuberculosis After Care Committee.

Telephone:
Kettering 2473

Area Health Office,
75 London Road,
Kettering.
June, 1971.

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Rushden.**

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Environmental Health of the Urban District of Rushden for the year 1970. It has been compiled in accordance with instructions circulated by the Department of Health and Social Security.

I took up the appointment of Medical Officer of Health to the Urban District in the Summer, succeeding Dr. Joan M. St. V. Dawkins who now acts for the County Council's Health Division No. 1.

There was a spectacular outbreak of Staphylococcal Food Poisoning amongst school children in Rushden on October 1st. A total of 134 cases occurred. Most cases were mild but sixteen were sufficiently ill to require admission to the Isolation Hospital. The outbreak is described on page 30.

Thirty-one cases of Infectious Hepatitis occurred in the Town during 1970 compared with eight cases in the previous year. Nine contacts of these cases were treated with Immune Globulin and did not develop the disease.

Infectious Hepatitis (Catarrhal Jaundice) is an illness of short duration principally affecting young people often school children or pre-school children. It is caused by invasion of the body by a Filter-Passing Virus.

After entry into and commencement of infection in the body, the disease does not manifest itself clinically for about a month. The illness is transmitted from a case to a non-immune susceptible contact, possibly through contamination of food and water by soiled hands. Strict personal hygiene is therefore of the greatest importance in the prevention of this kind of Jaundice.

I would like to make the point that Infectious Hepatitis can be communicated by blood transfusion and people who have actually

suffered from the disease should never become blood donors and contacts of cases of the illness should not give blood for six months.

The statistics relating to the Urban District, supplied by the Registrar General are given on page 7. The figures are satisfactory and do not require special comment.

In April the Northamptonshire Rat Control Committee decided to set up five District Committees and the Regional Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food recommended that the Urban District of Rushden be included in Committee No. 5 which also comprises the Urban Districts of Irthlingborough, Oundle and Raunds; the Borough of Higham Ferrers and the Rural District of Oundle and Thrapston.

My thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their co-operation during the year and to Mr. H. Ellis, Chief Public Health Inspector, and Miss Langley, my Secretary, for their help in the preparation of this Report.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

F. R. N. LYNCH,

Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Comparative Statistics for the Five Year Period 1966 to 1970

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Area of the Urban District (acres)	3823.2	3823.2	3823.2	3823.2	3823.2
Population					
(Registrar General's Estimate) ...	17,680	17,690	17,850	18,130	18,570
Number of Live Births ...	355	333	358	333	342
Legitimate ...	344	308	331	312	326
Illegitimate ...	11	25	27	21	16
Birth Rate per 1,000 population ...	20.1	18.8	20.1	18.4	18.4
Number of Stillbirths ...	8	7	3	7	7
Legitimate ...	8	7	2	6	5
Illegitimate ...	—	—	1	1	2
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total births	22.0	21.0	8.4	21.0	20.0
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 population	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.3
Number of Deaths ...	226	200	233	216	218
Death rate per 1,000 population ...	12.8	11.3	13.0	11.9	11.7
Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion ...	—	—	—	—	—
Number of Infant Deaths ...	4	9	3	4	4
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000					
Live Births... ...	11.3	27.0	8.4	12.0	11.7
Neonatal Mortality rate per 1,000					
Live Births... ...	5.5	21.0	5.6	6.0	8.8
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total Live and Stillbirths) ...	21.1	41.0	9.1	26.0	28.6
Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis including late effects ...	—	1	—	—	—
Deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis	—	1	—	—	—
Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms	59	39	71	49	51
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths from Enteritis and Diarrhoea under two years of age ...	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths from Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—
Natural increase in population, i.e., increase of Births over Deaths	129	133	125	117	124

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3823.2
Census Population 1951	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16,370
1961	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17,377
Population (Registrar General's Mid-year Estimate 1970)	...							18,570
Number of Inhabited Houses 1951			...	...	...	...		5,327
1961			...	...	...	...		6,112
1970			...	...	...	...		7,288
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£781,032
Product of Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£3,140

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are as follows:

Boot and shoe manufacture and allied trades. Light engineering and the manufacture of prefabricated buildings and caravans are also important.

The social conditions of the District are satisfactory and up to the end of the year the percentage of unemployment in the area was 1.4. The National Rate was 3 per cent.

The density of population is 4.4 persons per acre and the Housing Factor is 2.5.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS, 1970

						<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live Births								
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	157	169	326
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	8	8	16
						<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Totals</i>	...	...	...	...	...	165	177	342
						<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population								18.4
Adjusted Birth Rate (comparability factor 1.08)								19.9
Stillbirths								
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	5
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
						<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Totals</i>	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	7
						<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still)						...		20.0
Deaths								
Number registered all causes				...	...	123	95	218
Crude death rate per 1,000 estimated population								11.7
Adjusted Death Rate (comparability factor 0.94)								11.0
Deaths from Maternal causes								
					—
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths								—
Deaths of Infants (under 1 year)								
				...	...	4	—	4
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births						...		11.7
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate								
live births						...	...	12.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate								
live births						...	...	—
Deaths of Infants (under 4 weeks)								
				...	...	3	—	3
Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births								8.8
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live								
births						...	...	8.8
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and								
stillbirths (stillbirths and deaths of infants								
under 1 week combined)						...	...	28.6

CLASSIFICATION OF CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE, 1970

List No.	Cause of death	Sex	All Ages	4 weeks & under		Age in years										
				Under 4 weeks	1 year	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 & over		
B18	Other infective and parasitic diseases	... M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B19 (2)	Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus	... F.	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B19 (3)	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	... M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B19 (3)	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	... F.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
B19 (4)	Malignant neoplasm, intestine	... M.	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—
B19 (4)	Malignant neoplasm, intestine	... F.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
B19 (6)	Malignant neroplasm, lung, bronchus	... M.	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—
B19 (6)	Malignant neroplasm, lung, bronchus	... F.	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	2	3	—
B19 (6)	Malignant neroplasm, lung, bronchus	... M.	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	7	2	—	—
B19 (7)	Malignant neoplasm, breast	... F.	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B19 (7)	Malignant neoplasm, breast	... M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B19 (7)	Malignant neoplasm, breast	... F.	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—
B19 (10)	Leukaemia	... M.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
B19 (10)	Leukaemia	... F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B19(11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	... M.	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	5	1	—
B19(11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	... F.	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—
B20	Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	... M.	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
B20	Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	... F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B21	Diabetes Mellitus	... M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B21	Diabetes Mellitus	... F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B46(1)	Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	... M.	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	3	—
B46(1)	Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	... F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B23	Anaemias	... M.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
B23	Anaemias	... F.	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	... M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	... F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B27	Hypertensive Disease	... M.	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
B27	Hypertensive Disease	... F.	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	... M.	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	... F.	36	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	17	11	—
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	... M.	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	15	—
B29	Other Forms of Heart Disease	... F.	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
B29	Other Forms of Heart Disease	... M.	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease	... M.	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	7	—	—
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease	... F.	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	12	—

CLASSIFICATION OF CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE, 1970

List No.	Cause of death	Sex	All Ages	4 weeks		Age in years																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																		
				Under 4 weeks	& under 1 year	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 & over																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
B46(6)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	... M. F.	3 7	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	—<

COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

1. Population—The Registrar General's mid-year estimate of population 1970, was 18,570. The figure represents an increase in population of 440 since the mid-year estimate for 1969 was made.

2. Births—There were 342 live births in 1970, which is an increase of 9 in the number of live births registered in the previous year. This gives a crude birth rate of 18.4 per 1,000 population. The corresponding rate for 1969 was also 18.4. This rate, standardised on the basis of the age and sex composition of the population, gives an adjusted rate of 19.9. The adjusted, or corrected birth rate is obtained by multiplying the crude rate by a figure known as the Comparability Factor. This factor is supplied by the Registrar General and its value for Rushden Urban District is 1.08. The adjusted rate of 19.9 compares with the rate of 19.9 for 1969 and the provisional crude rate for England and Wales of 16.0.

3. Deaths—There were 218 deaths from all causes in 1970. The figure for last year was 216, and the corresponding crude death rates are 11.7 and 11.9 per 1,000 population. In the same way as described in the case of **2. Births** above, the death rate is standardised by the use of a further Comparability Factor. Its value for Rushden Urban District is 0.94 and the adjusted death rate corrected by means of this calculation is found to be 11.0. The current rate for England and Wales as a whole is reckoned by the Registrar General to be 11.7. The chief causes of death are Heart and Circulatory Disease, Cancer and Cerebral Apoplexy, in that order.

4. Disposal of the Dead—Of the 218 deaths during the year, 162 bodies were disposed of by cremation at Kettering Borough Crematorium, giving a percentage of 74.3.

5. Infant Mortality—There were four deaths of infants under one year of age. The infant mortality rate was 11.7 per 1,000 live births. The rate in 1969 was 12.0. The corresponding infant mortality rate for England and Wales as a whole is 18.0. Three of these deaths occurred in the first month of life. This method of expression is referred to as the Neonatal Mortality and the rate for 1970 is 8.8 per 1,000 live births. The current rate for England and Wales is 12.0. I append details of the causes and other particulars concerning the deaths.

<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Cause of Death</i>
15 minutes	M	Congenital Anomaly. Cord prolapse.
2 hours	M	Post haemorrhagic Anaemia. Massive aspiration.
6 hours	M	Respiratory failure. Prematurity.
1 month	M	Multiple congenital skeletal anomalies.

6. Stillbirths—There were seven Stillbirths registered in the District; there were also seven in 1969 and the rates are 21.8 and 21.6 respectively. The rate for England and Wales is 13.0. I append particulars of these deaths.

<i>Sex</i>	<i>Cause</i>
F	INTRA-UTERINE DEATH. PLACENTAL INSUFFICIENCY
M	Intra-uterine death. Cause unknown.
M	Foetal asphyxia. Placental praevia.
F	Anoxia. Breech delivery.
M	Accidental ante-partum haemorrhage.
F	Intra-uterine death. Maternal urinary tract infection.
F	Macerated foetus. Asphyxia.

7. Maternal Deaths—There were no deaths classed to pregnancy and childbirth.

DEATH AND BIRTH RATES FOR 1900-1970.

Year	Estimated Population mid-year	Net Births		Net Deaths belonging to District			
		No.	Rate per 1,000 pop'tion	Under 1 year		At all Ages	
				No.	Rate per 1,000 Live B'ths	No.	Rate per 1,000 pop'tion
1900	14,359	434	30.2	65	149.0	153	10.6
1905	14,089	328	23.2	36	109.7	119	8.4
1910	16,442	278	16.9	20	71.9	128	7.7
1915	13,787	277	19.9	30	108.3	145	10.5
1920	14,402	328	22.7	24	73.1	133	9.2
1925	13,780	211	15.3	13	61.6	138	10.0
1930	14,020	191	13.6	7	36.6	121	8.6
1935	14,550	176	12.1	15	85.2	155	10.7
1940	16,580	200	12.4	16	77.7	233	14.1
1941	17,600	193	10.9	11	54.1	185	10.5
1942	16,250	251	15.5	6	23.9	163	10.0
1943	15,490	281	18.1	8	28.4	172	11.1
1944	15,140	278	18.4	15	53.9	202	13.3
1945	14,070	282	20.0	14	49.6	176	12.6
1946	15,210	270	17.74	9	33.33	215	14.13
1947	15,440	308	19.94	8	25.97	200	12.95
1948	16,320	283	17.34	9	31.80	184	11.27
1949	16,410	219	13.34	3	13.69	221	13.46
1950	16,460	227	13.79	10	44.05	222	13.48
1951	16,220	199	12.26	1	5.02	218	13.44
1952	16,250	200	12.30	1	5.00	204	12.55
1953	16,390	229	13.97	2	8.73	156	9.51
1954	16,540	229	13.84	7	30.56	187	11.30
1955	16,560	221	13.34	7	31.67	187	11.29
1956	16,580	221	13.32	2	9.04	209	12.60
1957	16,670	233	13.97	5	21.45	162	9.71
1958	16,760	242	14.43	3	12.39	175	10.44
1959	16,990	266	15.65	7	26.31	203	11.94
1960	17,140	269	15.69	4	14.86	191	11.14
1961	17,360	282	16.24	3	10.63	181	10.42
1962	17,470	293	16.77	8	27.30	203	11.61
1963	17,540	320	18.25	5	15.62	226	12.82
1964	17,490	319	18.24	6	18.81	199	11.38
1965	17,590	363	20.63	5	13.81	216	12.28
1966	17,680	355	20.08	4	11.27	226	12.78
1967	17,690	333	18.82	9	27.00	200	11.3
1968	17,850	358	20.1	3	8.4	233	13.0
1969	18,130	333	18.4	4	12.0	216	11.9
1970	18,570	342	18.4	4	11.7	218	11.7

DEATHS FROM SELECTED CAUSES, 1929-1970.

Year	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Cancer		Diseases of Heart and Blood Vessels		Bronchitis, Pneumonia and other Respiratory Diseases	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
1929	—	—	12	0.85	21	1.49	39	2.76	9	0.64
1930	1	0.08	7	0.49	11	0.78	38	2.71	16	1.14
1931	—	—	10	0.70	17	1.18	47	3.29	23	1.61
1932	1	0.07	10	0.70	10	0.70	48	3.37	18	1.26
1933	2	0.13	14	0.97	20	1.39	53	3.69	9	0.62
1934	1	0.07	10	0.69	22	1.52	81	5.62	9	0.62
1935	6	0.41	5	0.34	16	1.09	51	3.50	12	0.82
1936	3	0.20	9	0.61	18	1.22	66	4.47	12	0.81
1937	—	—	4	0.26	21	1.41	68	4.56	10	0.67
1938	—	—	10	0.66	23	1.52	69	4.57	7	0.46
1939	1	0.06	11	0.70	23	1.46	57	3.63	9	0.57
1940	3	0.17	10	0.60	32	1.92	78	4.69	23	1.38
1941	1	0.06	13	0.52	32	1.81	79	4.48	26	1.47
1942	1	0.06	7	0.43	28	1.72	72	4.42	13	0.80
1943	—	—	5	0.32	32	2.00	51	3.29	20	1.29
1944	4	0.26	7	0.46	22	1.45	101	6.66	22	1.45
1945	2	0.14	4	0.28	24	1.76	101	7.17	9	0.63
1946	3	0.19	7	0.46	29	1.90	106	6.31	18	1.18
1947	1	0.06	8	0.51	15	0.97	115	7.44	17	1.10
1948	—	—	6	0.36	30	1.83	95	5.82	16	0.98
1949	2	0.12	7	0.42	31	1.88	123	7.49	23	1.40
1950	—	—	3	0.18	34	2.06	117	7.10	26	1.57
1951	1	0.06	3	0.18	26	1.60	93	5.73	24	1.47
1952	2	0.12	8	0.49	41	2.52	102	6.27	17	1.04
1953	—	—	3	0.18	28	1.70	85	5.18	16	0.97
1954	—	—	1	0.06	29	1.75	110	6.65	19	1.14
1955	—	—	—	—	28	1.69	108	6.52	18	1.08
1956	—	—	1	0.06	25	1.50	133	8.02	23	1.38
1957	—	—	—	—	34	2.03	84	5.03	16	0.95
1958	—	—	1	0.05	39	2.31	91	5.42	15	0.89
1959	—	—	3	0.17	39	2.29	112	6.59	14	0.82
1960	—	—	1	0.05	41	2.39	94	5.48	23	1.34
1961	—	—	2	0.11	40	2.30	84	4.83	26	1.49
1962	—	—	—	—	43	2.46	98	5.03	24	1.31
1963	—	—	—	—	28	1.71	113	6.44	36	2.05
1964	—	—	1	0.06	45	2.57	93	5.32	10	0.57
1965	—	—	—	—	43	2.44	101	5.74	17	0.97
1966	—	—	—	—	59	3.34	115	6.50	22	1.24
1967	—	—	1	0.06	39	2.21	107	6.05	21	1.19
1968	—	—	—	—	71	3.98	101	5.66	30	1.68
1969	—	—	—	—	49	2.56	94	5.18	30	1.65
1970	—	—	—	—	51	2.70	79	4.20	26	1.20

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

In subsequent sections, full details will be found relating to infectious diseases and environmental health within the Urban District, for which the Council is directly responsible.

The present section relates to those health services which concern more the personal health and welfare of the individual rather than public health and the community. The Health Committee of the Northamptonshire County Council is responsible for administration of some of these services under Part III of the National Health Service Act.

Liaison between the County Council services and District Council services is facilitated by the fact that your Medical Officer of Health is also a School Medical Officer and Assistant County Medical Officer.

Laboratory Facilities—The Public Health Laboratory, Northampton is available for the examination of specimens in connection with the diagnosis and control of infectious diseases.

Ambulance Service—This is one of the services for which the County Council is responsible, and the area is adequately covered.

Domiciliary Services—These include District Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors, who are all highly trained, qualified nurses on the staff of the County Medical Officer. The Home Help Service, also provided by the County Council, is proving more and more valuable in relieving people of domestic worries during periods of illness or confinement, and in helping old folk to remain in their own homes, so that they can retain their treasured independence.

Child Welfare Centres—The County Council provide these services as follows:

Health Centre, Rectory Road—2 p.m. every Monday and Wednesday

Immunisation and Vaccination—Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis and vaccination against Smallpox are free services, available either from the family doctor or at

the County Child Welfare Clinics. Certain age groups of children can also be given B.C.G. vaccination to protect against Tuberculosis. This is done through the School Health Service.

A vaccine for the protection of infants against Measles is now available and, in accordance with the policy of the County Health Department, a campaign for the control of and, it is hoped, ultimate eradication of this disease, was commenced in the Autumn of 1968.

Hospital Accommodation and Out-patient Facilities. The Oxford Regional Hospital Board is responsible for these services a list of which is as follows:

General Hospitals—Northampton and Kettering.

Wellingborough:

- Wellingborough Hospital—Gynaecological.
- Highfield Hospital—General Medicine and Paediatrics.
- Park Hospital—Chronic sick, the aged and old persons in need of care and attention.
- Maternity Block attached to the Park Hospital.

Rushden Hospital—Tuberculosis and other diseases of the chest. Also beds available for skin cases.

Northampton:

- Manfield Orthopaedic Hospital.
- Infectious Diseases—Harborough Road Hospital.

Out-patient facilities are available at the General Hospitals and also at the Rushden Memorial Hospital. The following out-patient clinics are held at the Rushden Memorial Hospital.

Gynaecological/	...	Monday mornings
Obstetrical	...	(except last Monday in month)
		Alternate Tuesday mornings
		2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesday afternoons
General Medicine	...	2nd and 4th Monday afternoons
		Alternate Tuesday mornings
		2nd and 4th Tuesday afternoons
		1st, 3rd and 5th Friday mornings
Physical Medicine		Monday afternoons
Dietician	... ..	1st Tuesday mornings
General Surgery	...	1st and 3rd Tuesday afternoons
		2nd and 4th Friday mornings

E.N.T.	...	...	2nd and 4th Wednesday mornings 1st and 3rd Wednesday afternoons
Chest Diagnosis	...	...	Every Wednesday afternoon
Ophthalmology	...	...	Thursday mornings and afternoons
Physiotherapy	...	...	Monday afternoons Alternate Friday afternoons
Psychiatric	...	...	Thursday afternoons
Dermatology	...	...	Thursday mornings
Paediatrics	...	...	Wednesday mornings
Diabetic	...	...	1st Monday afternoon
Orthopaedic	...	...	1st and 3rd Friday afternoons

Venereal Disease—

Out-patient Department, Kettering General Hospital.

Tuesday of each week Female 4.30-5.30 p.m.

Male 5.30-6.30 p.m.

Northampton General Hospital:

Males Wednesday 2-3 p.m.

Friday 5-6.30 p.m.

Females Monday 5.15-6.30 p.m.

Friday 2.15-3.30 p.m.

National Assistance Acts 1948 and 1951, Section 47—These Acts give Local Authorities powers to enable them to deal expeditiously with certain cases of persons in need of care and attention which they are unable to provide for themselves and are not receiving from other people.

No formal action was taken under this Section of these Acts in 1970.

Rushden Senior Citizens' Goodwill Committee—This Committee has completed another successful year of work on behalf of Rushden senior citizens being the sixteenth since the Committee was established in 1954. The work has now settled down into what may be regarded as a useful co-ordination of many voluntary efforts; throughout the year the Committee have endeavoured to improve and extend the services wherever possible.

The four Ward Committees have met regularly and they continue to be an essential part of the organisation. The work of the members of the Ward Committees and the street wardens associated with them in preserving contact with the senior citizens is gratefully acknowledged.

The Ward Committees also organised regular visits to Rushden old people who are in hospital, with special Christmas visits. Approximately 1,200 gifts to the value of £486 were also distributed at Christmas.

The “ Meals on Wheels ” service was continued throughout the year by the Women’s Royal Voluntary Service. It is a wonderful service which enables old people to receive hot meals, delivered to their homes, for a nominal payment, to the extent of 130 meals every week. During the year 6,444 meals were delivered, making a total of 54,504 since the scheme started in 1957. The W.R.V.S. also supplemented the regular service by special Christmas dinners (paid for by the boys of the Secondary School) and a Christmas party.

The W.R.V.S. also continued to operate the “ day centre ” at Kilburn House and on one day each week fourteen old people were transported to the common room at Kilburn House where they spent a happy day together.

The Committee were grateful to the Rotary Club for arranging an evening outing in cars, followed by a supper provided by the Inner Wheel, for about sixty old people.

The Chiropody Service has been continued satisfactorily and is used to the limit of the capacity. 195 patients received 719 treatments at the surgery and 106 received a total of 408 treatments in their own homes.

The work of the Committee during the year involved a total expenditure of £1,263. The annual house-to-house collection produced £420 and there was a further generous donation of £500 from the Town Fete Committee.

Rushden Tuberculosis After Care Committee—During the year assistance to chest patients and their families has been the main objective of the Committee. Help has been given to sufferers from Tuberculosis, Asthma, Bronchitis, Lung Cancer, Stroke illness etc., and is both financial and social. Whilst in the care of the Committee monthly visits are made to patients in their homes or whilst they are in hospital. By these visits members of the Committee are able to assess the patients’ needs.

During the year many gifts of goods and cash have been distributed.

Six patients were sent to Clacton on recuperative holidays and one patient and his family were the guests of the Rotary Club in a caravan by the sea.

Many efforts were arranged to raise funds for this worthy cause.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply. The Higham Ferrers and Rushden Water Board is responsible for the water supply to the Urban District. The Board provides a treated water supply and the sources of supply are as follows:

Above Ground Source—Sywell Reservoir, which has a capacity of 236,000,000 gallons, and is situated in the Wellingborough Rural District. The reservoir is dependent upon springs and surface rainwater from the surrounding catchment area, also two small brooks flow into the reservoir. The size of the catchment area is approximately 2,000 acres. Treatment of water at these works consists of slow sand filtration, rapid gravity filtration, followed by chlorination.

Under Ground Source of Supply—(a) Hardwater Crossing, Wollaston. The source of supply here is from wells sunk in the Nene river gravels. The water from this source is rather hard. Treatment of water consists of mechanical filtration, followed by chlorination.

(b) *Ditchford.* Water is extracted from the gravels by porous concrete collector ducts which are laid in the alluvial gravels adjacent to Ditchford lake. Treatment of water consists of rapid gravity filtration, partial softening, aeration, and finally, chlorination.

(c) Further sources of supply belonging to the Board are a gravel well at Earls Barton and springs at Grendon.

Quality of Water. The chemical analyses of water taken at Ditchford, Sywell and Wollaston Pumping Stations gave the following results:

			<i>Final Water</i> <i>Wollaston</i> <i>Works</i>	<i>Final Water</i> <i>Ditchford</i> <i>Works</i>	<i>Final Water</i> <i>Sywell</i> <i>Works</i>
Physical Characters	...	...	Good	Good	Good
Reaction	...	...	p.H. 7.0	7.1	7.2

Chemical Analysis

				<i>Parts per 100,000</i>		
<i>Samples Contained</i>				<i>Sywell</i> <i>(treated)</i>	<i>Ditchford</i> <i>(treated)</i>	<i>Wollaston</i> <i>(treated)</i>
Chloride	...	...	...	4.8	7.0	3.8
Ammonia (Free and Saline)				0.0098	nil	0.0042
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	...			0.0136	0.0272	0.0244
Nitrate	...	...	...	0.50	0.10	0.20
Nitrite	...	...	...	absent	absent	absent
Poisonous Metals	...	...		absent	absent	absent
Calcium	...	...	...	12.6	12.4	8.4
Magnesium		...	...	1.21	1.21	1.05
Alkalinity	...	...	...	23.0	17.5	12.5
Total Hardness	...	...		31.9	27.8	18.3
Permanent hardness		...		15.7	17.2	12.3
Temporary hardness		...		16.2	10.6	6.0
Microscopic examination						
of deposit	...	...		none	none	none
Bacteriological examination				c.o.	c.o.	c.o.
				absent	absent	absent

Fluoride Content of the Water Supply—

Sywell Reservoir	...	...	...	0.24 parts per million
Wollaston, Hardwater Crossing	...			0.2 parts per million
Ditchford	...	...	...	0.18 parts per million

Water Samples. 516 samples were taken in the area of the Board during the year. Samples of treated water all gave satisfactory results.

Water Consumption. The following are combined figures for Rushden and Higham Ferrers.

				<i>gallons</i>
Average daily consumption				... 923,694
Domestic Use:				
Average per day	...	...	...	771,181
Trade Use:				
Average per day	...	...	...	152,513
Consumption/Head/Day				
Domestic	...	...	...	33.5
Trade	...	...	...	6.6

Piped Water Supply. New services. Private 105, Council none.

The rainfall over the past 14 years was as follows:

		1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Rushden	...	23.72	26.85	18.4	31.64	18.90	19.27	21.45	18.22
Sywell	...	24.51	30.54	20.5	33.74	20.80	18.91	22.23	16.35
		1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970		
		25.89	28.89	20.22	30.43	23.07	22.89		
		28.98	28.96	25.23	28.29	22.13	25.95		

Sewage Disposal, Drainage and Sewerage. The sewage disposal plant for the town is situated off the Wellingborough Road, and is well screened.

Trade effluents. Council investigate trade waste and effected trade effluent agreements with industry in 1965.

Swimming Baths. A heated open-air swimming pool run by the council is open during the summer months. A daily check on the quality of the baths water is made by the swimming baths manager, and monthly samples are taken by the Health Department for bacteriological examination.

Movable Dwellings. There is one licensed site for caravans. This is situated off the Bedford Road. It is a very well maintained site and the necessary amenities for the caravan dwellers are provided.

Public Cleansing. There is a weekly collection of household refuse and also facilities available for the tipping of trade waste. The tip is situated at Sidegate Lane, Finedon, in the old ironstone workings.

Atmospheric Pollution. The following figures give a comparison between the results of the deposit gauges and the estimated sulphur in the atmosphere by the lead peroxide method. Rainfall is also given.

Month		Rainfall		Deposited Sulphur			
		Inches		Deposited Matter		Tons per sq. mile	
		1970	1969	1970	1969	1970	1969
January	...	2.83	2.72	8.97	6.30	1.47	1.53
February	...	2.20	1.77	6.90	7.84	1.42	1.83
March	...	1.93	2.29	15.01	9.64	1.34	1.17
April	...	2.40	1.06	13.71	7.34	1.31	1.26
May	...	0.55	4.02	8.40	14.91	0.60	0.76
June	...	0.91	1.38	4.50	11.34	0.44	0.66
July	...	1.54	2.13	4.97	8.34	0.26	0.61
August	...	2.44	2.17	5.57	4.90	0.40	0.55
September	...	1.10	0.32	1.57	4.14	0.97	0.79
October	...	1.54	0.16	6.67	3.06	0.68	0.79
November	...	3.86	1.69	7.27	6.30	*	1.30
December	...	1.14	1.69	5.14	3.84	1.46	1.40

*Figures not available

Noise Abatement Act, 1960. The Council is responsible for investigating complaints under this Act, although it is often difficult to find a satisfactory solution to noise nuisance.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	<i>Non-Agricultural</i>	<i>Agricultural</i>
1. Number of properties in district.	8,743	25
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification.	118	7
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	56	6
(ii) Mice	50	—
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and mice for reasons other than notification.	29	9
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	1	—
(ii) Mice	14	—

It became evident during the year that Warfarin resistant mice had spread to most parts of the District. Every new case presented some difficulty, and infestations had to be treated with dusts, zinc phosphide combinations and traps. A new poison is desperately required to deal with this problem.

The County Rat Campaign was not as successful as last year and was hampered by the occurrence of Fowl Pest. It was difficult to compare the activity of the farming community, but they did not purchase the amount of Warfarin as they did on the last occasion.

The baiting of the sewers again produced no result and indicated rat free systems.

Factories Act, 1937 to 1961. There are 158 premises on the register. Further information is given on page 34. The number of outworkers (Part VIII of the Act) in the August list totalled 76 who were concerned with making wearing apparel.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963—All registered premises within the Urban District have now received a general inspection. All new premises or businesses within the district are visited to ascertain the number of staff employed, if any, and the premises registered and inspected as necessary, some premises being inspected by the Factory Inspector.

At the end of 1970, 212 premises were registered with the Urban District, and a total of 1,334 persons were employed.

During general inspections of these premises a total of 430 contraventions have been found to exist. Written notices have been served on 102 premises, and works have been completed at 77. Works are in progress at the majority of the remaining 25 premises, and it is expected these notices will be complied with by the end of the year. Numerous verbal notices were also given to employers regarding more minor contraventions.

The most common contraventions found involved sanitary conveniences, washing facilities, conditions of floors, cleanliness of workrooms, and the absence of suitable handrails, first-aid boxes and thermometers.

Works completed include the provision of several new sanitary conveniences; some at premises having a convenience for the first time, instead of sharing, and others having extra conveniences built, according to the numbers and sex of staff employed. Hot water geysers have been fitted at a large number of premises, where the only source of hot water has been a kettle. Handrails have been provided to stairways and short flights of steps, defective floors repaired, and dangerous openings in floors guarded.

The response to these notices has been very good, most employers complying with the Act without the need to serve reminder notices.

At the time of the initial inspections approximately 50 per cent of the registered premises did not comply with the Act, and it can be seen from the information above progress has been made in the past two years.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

The Council's building programme for the year was as follows:

No. of council houses constructed ...	...	...	...	—
No. under construction at the end of the year ...	...	...	...	—
No. of houses built by the Council since the war	...	...	...	1,083
Private houses constructed during the year	...	...	...	123
Private houses under construction at the end of the year	...	...	...	154

Housing Applicants. The situation with regard to applicants for Council houses was as follows:

<i>On general housing list</i>	<i>In Rooms</i>	<i>Tenants</i>	<i>Engaged Couples</i>	<i>Total</i>
(a) Having completed a waiting period of 9 months ...	6	79	7	92
(b) Under 9 months (50% of nominal list) ...	—	—	—	40
(c) Applications for bungalows and 1 bedroomed flats ...	—	—	—	165*
(d) Awaiting re-housing from clearance areas and condemned houses ...				—
				<hr/> 307 <hr/>

*Includes 40 Council house tenants

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Food Premises. In order to maintain satisfactory high standards of food hygiene, frequent inspection of food premises is necessary. During the year 35 samples of milk were taken, all were satisfactory.

Manufacture and Sale of Ice-Cream. 78 premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream. One for bulk, one for cold mix and 76 for pre-packed. During the year 38 samples were taken, all were Grade One.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

SAMPLES TAKEN IN RUSHDEN URBAN DISTRICT IN THE 12 MONTHS ENDING 31ST MARCH, 1970

Milk	...	...	...	34	Brought forward	...	49
Antibiotic milks	...	...	...	4	Cream	...	2
Balsam	...	...	...	1	Fish products	...	1
Biscuits	...	...	...	1	Ice cream	...	2
Canned fruit	...	...	...	4	Jams, etc.	...	4
Cheese	...	...	...	1	Marzipan	...	2
Condensed Milk	...	...	...	2	Meat products	...	14
Condiments	...	...	...	2	Tablets	...	1
				49	Total	...	75
Carried forward	...	...	...	

Remarks

A sample which was taken from a farm collecting tank containing 132 gallons of milk was reported by the Public Analyst to have a solids-not-fat percentage of 8.25. The freezing point test which was subsequently applied confirmed that the depression of the solids-not-fat content was due to the presence of 2.22 of added water. Appeal samples taken during the milking of the herd two days later showed that the milk produced was perfectly satisfactory. Enquiries showed that the presence of water in the original sample was probably due to inefficient draining of the milking system after washing out with water. A formal caution was given to the dairy farmer concerned.

Four samples of untreated milk were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory and the brucella ring test was applied. All samples were reported to have reacted in a negative manner to the test.

Weights and Measures Act, 1963

10,401 articles were checked for weight or measure during the year and fof these, 183 were found to be deficient whilst 154 were incorrect in other respects.

Whilst the proportion of unsatisfactory articles was somewhat higher than is usual, in no case was it necessary to institute legal proceedings. The errors were generally of a minor nature and it was possible to deal with them by advice or caution to the trader concerned at the time of detection.

With acknowledgement and thanks to the Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures Department, Northamptonshire.

Meat Inspection. A full time authorised meat inspector is employed at the abattoir, and he is also responsible for keeping records and supervising the hygiene and cruelty aspects of the killing operations, as well as keeping an eye on the frozen meat trade conducted from the depot.

The Divisional Veterinary Surgeon and the Chief Public Health Inspector make an annual inspection and report on conditions found.

PART I

(A) **MEAT INSPECTION**

<i>Carcases inspected and condemned</i>			<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed	...	...	3,136	7	9	6,204	10,082
Number <i>not</i> inspected	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci							
Whole carcases condemned	...	...	—	—	5	4	30
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	1,074	3	3	893	4,742
Tuberculosis only							
Whole carcases condemned	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	—	—	—	—	15
Cysticerci							
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	12	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to refrigeration			12	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned			—	—	—	—	—

(B) MEAT SPECIMENS EXAMINED

The number of meat specimens from slaughterhouses submitted to laboratories for examination. Nil

(C) MEAT INSPECTION (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1966

How many orders have been made specifying days and time of slaughtering at any slaughterhouses in the district None

(D) POULTRY

1. Number of poultry slaughtering establishments	...	...	None
2. Total estimated average weekly throughout ...	...	...	Nil

PART II SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Prevention of Cruelty Regulations

Number of (a) prosecutions	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) convictions	...	...	...	...	Nil

Hygiene Regulations

(1) PART III EQUIPMENT

Number of (a) prosecutions	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) convictions	...	...	...	...	Nil

(2) PART IV HYGIENIC PRACTICES

Number of (a) prosecutions	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) convictions	...	...	...	...	Nil

(F) UNSOUND FOOD SURRENDERED OR CONDEMNED

					<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts</i>	<i>lbs</i>
1. Meat at slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	16	19	74
2. Meat at wholesale premises	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
3. Meat at retail shops	...	...	...	...		5	4
4. Cooked meat and meat products	...	...	...	...			94
5. Canned meats	...	...	...	...			77
6. Other canned foods	...	...	...	...		3	24
7. Fish	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
8. Fruit and vegetables (fresh)	...	...	...	...		1	94
9. Frozen foods due to cabinet breakdown	...	...	...	...		6	44
10. Other foods...	...	...	...	...		3	24
Total	...	...	...	...	18	0	99

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968

Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations

Notification of food poisoning and infectious diseases

All provisions governing the notification of infectious disease and food poisoning are in Sections 47 to 49 of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968 and the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1968.

The infectious diseases to be notified to the medical officer of health are:

Acute Encephalitis	Measles
Acute Meningitis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Acute Poliomyelitis	Paratyphoid Fever
Anthrax	Plague
Cholera	Relapsing Fever
Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever
Dysentery (Amoebic or Bacillary)	Smallpox
Food Poisoning	Tetanus
Infective Jaundice	Tuberculosis
Leprosy	Typhoid Fever
Leptospirosis	Typhus
Malaria	Whooping Cough
	Yellow Fever

Since 1968 notification of the diseases listed below is no longer required:

Acute influenzal pneumonia	Erysipelas
Acute primary pneumonia	Membranous croup
Acute rheumatism	Puerperal pyrexia

Responsibility for notifying a case or suspected case of food poisoning or infectious disease rests exclusively on the medical practitioner attending the patient unless he believes that another practitioner has already notified the case.

The total number of cases of infectious diseases, other than Tuberculosis, notified during the year was 99, a decrease of 54 on last year's figure.

Measles—Thirty-one cases were notified compared with one hundred and thirty-six cases in 1969. All were nursed at home and there were no fatalities.

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus—Routine immunisation of infants under one year of age with Triple Antigen has again shown its efficacy in preventing these diseases.

Immunisation is carried out either by the Family Doctor or at the County Health Department's clinics. No cases occurred.

Poliomyelitis—This is the fourth disease which is prevented by routine immunisation in infancy. This is again done either by the Family Doctor or at the Health Department's Clinics. No cases occurred.

Scarlet Fever—No cases occurred. There was one notification in the previous year.

Gastro-Intestinal Diseases—One case of Sonne Dysentery occurred in September in a three year old girl. This case was treated in hospital.

Food Poisoning—There were 135 notifications of Food Poisoning during the year. Apart from one case which was notified in July, the remaining 134 cases were due to a single explosive outbreak of Staphylococcal Food Poisoning on October 1st.

The causative organism of the July case was Salmonella Javiana and was contracted abroad. This case was treated at home and recovery was complete.

The following description of the Staphylococcal Outbreak of Food Poisoning is taken from the British Medical Journal, 10th April, 1971.

Outbreak of Staphylococcal Food Poisoning

“ On 1st October children and staff of three schools became ill three hours after eating a school meal prepared in the canteen of one of the schools. In all 394 meals were served and 134 people became ill. Symptoms were abdominal pain, vomiting, prostration and, in some cases, diarrhoea. Most of the cases were mild but 16 children were sufficiently ill to require admission to hospital.

The meal consisted of meat pie, potato, carrot and trifle; the pie was prepared in the school kitchen and served hot.

Suspicion was directed to the trifle as the vehicle of infection, since some children had not eaten it and they remained well. *Staphylococcus aureus* which produced enterotoxin A was isolated from the faeces of eight children admitted to hospital and from a rectal swab from one of eight other patients who were examined. It was also isolated from nasal swabs of three members of the canteen staff, and one of these strains had a phage-typing pattern similar to that of the faecal strains. No *Staphylococcus* was isolated from the food, although the trifle gave a heavy growth of coliform bacilli. It was learned later, however, that the trifle had been prepared in many separate bowls by several cooks, each adding one constituent. The cook who carried the suspected *Staphylococcus* added only the final cream decoration. It seemed possible, therefore, that only some bowls were contaminated, which would account for the epidemiological findings.”

In connection with this outbreak of Food Poisoning, it was necessary to temporarily prohibit three persons, who were engaged in the preparation of food, from carrying on their occupations.

Infectious Hepatitis—Thirty-one cases of Infectious Hepatitis were notified during the year. This condition was made generally notifiable throughout England and Wales in 1968.

Smallpox—There were no cases.

Leprosy—The Public Health (Leprosy) Regulations, 1966 came into force on March 1st, 1966.

Under these regulations cases of Leprosy are now notifiable to the District Medical Officer of Health and not as heretofore to the Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health and Social Security.

Tuberculosis—Five names were added to my Register during the year, two of these were “Inward Transfers”. Four names were removed, being now healed and one patient moved to another District. There were no deaths from Tuberculosis during 1970.

The expression “Inward Transfer” means that a person, whose name already appears in another Tuberculosis Register, has come to reside in this County District.

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
(Other than Tuberculosis) 1970

<i>Disease</i>		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTAL
Infectious Hepatitis	...	9	9	6	3	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	31
Measles	...	—	—	—	—	2	4	13	8	3	1	—	—	31
Food Poisoning	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	134	—	—	135
Sonne Dysentery		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
TOTALS	...	9	9	6	3	4	5	15	8	4	135	—	—	198

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
(Other than Tuberculosis) 1970

<i>Disease</i>	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65+	All Ages	Removed to Hospital	Deaths	Age Unknown
Infectious Hepatitis	—	—	—	—	—	12	6	3	5	4	1	—	31	—	—	—
Measles	...	5	7	3	4	11	—	—	1	—	—	—	31	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	...	—	—	—	1	25	92	8	—	7	1	1	135	16	—	—
Sonne Dysentery	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
TOTALS	...	5	7	4	5	48	98	11	6	11	2	1	198	17	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS
NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1970

<i>Age Periods</i>	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-respiratory</i>		<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-respiratory</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
— 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—34	1	—	—	1*	—	—	—	—
35—44	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—54	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—64	1*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—

*Inward Transfers

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1961
for the year 1970.

PART I OF THE ACT

1.—**Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	151	—	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (ex- cluding out-workers' premises) ...	2	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	158	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>

